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Message Text

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ORIGIN SNM-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13
JUSE-00 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-07
OMB-01 HEW-04 DODE-00 AGRE-00 /059 R

DRAFTED BY S/NM:MLCHESHES:SCT
APPROVED BY S/NM:MFALCO
ARA/AND/CDCOX (SUBS)
RPP:JO'GRADY (SUBS)
S/NM:DSOHLIN
S/NM:JLINNEMANN
----------080833 181309Z /47
P R 181257Z OCT 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 249590

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, CO

SUBJECT: MARIJUANA ERADICATION

REFERENCE: BOGOTA 9373

1. DEPARTMENT APPROVES GOING FORWARD WITH MARIJUANA ERADICATION PILOT PROJECT EVEN THOUGH LIMITED TO ONLY 250 HECTARES. THIS DECISION IS BASED ON POLITICAL RATHER THAN PROGRAMATIC CONSIDERATIONS. THE ORIGINAL ASSISTANCE REQUEST EMANATED DIRECTLY FROM PRESIDENT LOPEZ, AN INFORMAL COMMITMENT WAS MADE TO THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND ATTORNEY GENERAL AND FINALLY WE ARE INTERESTED IN MATTERS OF CONCERN TO THE GOC IN RETURN FOR ATTENTION TO AREAS OF PRIORITY INTEREST TO US. PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT OUR PRESENT COMMITMENT DOES
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NOT GO BEYOND THE PILOT PHASE. ANY DECISION FOR ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE WILL HAVE TO BE MADE AT SOME FUTURE DATE AND IN LIGHT OF THE STATUS OF NARCOTICS COOPERATION IN GENERAL.

2. WHILE IDEALLY A 1,000 - 2,000 HECTARE PILOT AREA IS PREFERABLE, IN LIGHT OF A FIRM POLICY DECISION NOT TO PURCHASE CHEMICALS FOR ERADICATION WE WILL HAVE TO SETTLE FOR THE

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250 HECTARES AREA. SINCE WE KNOW FROM OUR EXPERIENCE IN MEXICO THAT THE SPRAY METHOD WILL WORK, THE AIM OF THE PILOT EFFORT IN COLOMBIA WILL BE TO DETERMINE ITS POLITICAL/SOCIO-LOGICAL FEASIBILITY AND THE IMPACT ON TRAFFICKING

ORGANIZATIONS. IN AN EFFORT TO INCREASE THE AREA, THE EMBASSY MAY WISH TO EXPLORE WITH THE GOC THE POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR CHEMICALS WHEN THE NEW FISCAL YEAR BEGINS IN JANUARY.

3. EMBASSY CANNOT MAKE ANY FIRM COMMITMENT TO THE GOC SINCE CONGRESS HAS NOT YET PASSED THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE APPROPRIATION OR EVEN A CONTINUING RESOLUTION. ONCE FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE S/NM WILL FUND PILOT PROJECT UNDER WASHINGTON ALLOTMENT FOR PROGRAM SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT. EVEN USING THESE WASHINGTON-HELD FUNDS, WE WILL WISH TO HAVE SOME TYPE OF PROJECT AGREEMENT DRAWN UP BETWEEN THE EMBASSY AND THE GOC OUTLINING THE AIMS OF THE PROJECT AND THE COMMITMENT BY BOTH SIDES. DEPARTMENT WILL NOTIFY POST ONCE FUNDS BECOME AVAILABLE. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MARIJUANA, CROP DESTRUCTION, POLICIES, FUND ALLOTMENT, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Reference: 77 BOGOTA 9373
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Review Content Flags:
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SAS ID: 873875
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MARIJUANA ERADICATION
TAGS: SNAR, CO, US
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